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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP
INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY Czechoslovakia/France

DATE: 25X1A

SUBJECT Secret Dispatch from Hala to Bidault

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SUPPLEMENT



1. In an effort to renew negotiations for the French treaty and strengthen the ties between the MRP and the Czech People's Party, Minister of Posts Hala prepared a long secret dispatch for Bidault. Duchacek was to take it to Paris 27 July and prepare the ground with MRP for a visit by Hala later in the summer. Hala will also seek contact with Christian elements in the British Labour Party.
2. Hala's dispatch explains the reversal in the Czech stand on the Paris Conference in terms of geography, the alliance with the USSR, and the fact of Communist power in Czechoslovakia. But Hala emphasizes the economic necessity of close relations with the West since at best the eastern countries can take only one third of Czechoslovakia's exports. Hala also traces the development of events in the Gottwald mission to Moscow. Since Czechoslovakia would suffer most from a worldwide split of East and West, the policy of the People's Party is directed toward avoiding that split.
3. In his message Hala reminds Bidault that Stalin is not opposed to the Franco-Czech pact but that he objects to weakness in the text. Since both parties are interested in the whole spirit of the pact, France should broaden the text. The moral support thus given the Czech people would help them avoid the feeling of abandonment which he says must be avoided at all costs.

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